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Organized Labor and Politics.

Since its organization the American Federation of Labor has kept in mind two facts: first, the lamentable experience of its predecessor; and second, that, in the struggle for improved conditions and emancipation for the toilers, what is wanted is the organization of wage workers, not on "party" lines, but on the lines of their class interests. As an organization, the American Federation of Labor is not in harmony either with the existing or projected political parties. So deep-seated is the conviction in this matter that, long ago, it was decided to hold the conventions of the Federation after the elections. Thus freed from party bias and campaign crimination, these gatherings have been in a position to declare for general principles, and to judge impartially upon the merits or demerits of each party. holding each to an accountability for its perfidy to the promises made to the working people, and at the same time keeping clear and distinct the economic character of the organization. By our non-political partisan character as an organization, we tacitly declare that political liberty with economic independence is illusory and deceptive, and that only in so far as we gain economic independence can our political liberty become tangible and important. This may sound like political heresy, but it is economic truth.

As time goes on we discern that the organized workingmen place less reliance upon the help offered by others, and it is a spark upon the altar of progress that they have learned to more firmly depend upon their own efforts to secure these changes and improvements which are theirs by right. Of course it must not be imagined that we have no interest in the political affairs of our country; on the contrary, we believe that it is our mission to gather the vast numbers of the wealth producers, agricultural. industrial and commercial, into a grand army of organized labor, and, by our struggles for improved conditions and mancipation, instill into the minds of the workers a keener appreciation of their true position in society and of their economic, political and social duties and rights as citizens and workers. Every advantage gained in the economic condition of the wage-workers must necessarily have its political and social effect, not only upon themselves but upon the whole people. Hence for the present, at least, nearly all our efforts are concentrated upon the field as indicated above.

Many may find fault in refraining from directly entering the political arena by the nomination of candidates for National and State offices and will point to results in England and other countries for our emulation. In considering this quostion it must be borne in mind that the bona fide labor movement, as expressed in the trades unions of America, is much younger, both in years and experience, than it is abroad, and that the element of time is an important factor for the rank and file to mature that confidence in the wisdom and honesty of their leaders, which is as necessary a pre-requisite to the party entering the field of politics, as it has been the achievement of the trades unions, and it would be most unwise to say anything, harsher to abandon the organization, position and methods of past success to fly "to others we know not of." More than half of the battle of labor has already been won. No really intelligent man to-day disputes the claims of labor. The stage of ridicule is happily past; the era of reason has taken its place; and what is now needed is the means and the power to enforce our claim. To that end we are marshaling our forces, and we will demonstrate to the world that the demands and struggles of the toiling masses, while ostensibly and immediately concerned with their own improvement and emancipation, will devel op the possibilities, grandeur and true nobility of the human family. Having mapped out our course, the members of the American Federation of Labor can look on the coming Presidential campaign with a degree of equanimity not often attained by the average citizen. The excitement and turmoil, criminations and recriminations will not rend our organization asunder, as it has done so many others; and during it all, and when the blare of trumpets has died away, and the "spell-binders" have received their rewards, the American Federation of Labor will still be found plodding along, doing noble battle in the struggle for the uplifting of the toiling masses.—Samuel Gompers in North American Review.

In discussing the prize essays on taxation, recently printed in Public Opinion, the Portland Oregonian says of the paper to which the first prize was awarded: The chief value of this presentment is not so much in its suggestions, many of which as elaborated will not bear the analytical test of economic principles, as in the illustration it furnishes of the vigor of thought and the process of reasoning evolved in the fresh young American mind, devoted under favorable conditions to the study of questions of political economy. The people of every locality throughout the Nation are chafing, to greater or less extent, under a system of taxation that is complicated, annoying and unjust. The complaint of the taxpayer is universal, and it is founded not so much upon his unwillingness to bear his proportion of the expenses of the government, local and general, as upon the feeling that he bears more than his just share of the burden. To say that there is no remedy for this state of affairs is to arraign common intelligence, which is at once the basis and the safeguard of free institutions, as impotent. The trouble is not in making a correct diagnosis of the case and prescribing a remedy. It is rather in securing, in opposition to political schemers and in spite of shallow reasoners, an application of such measures of relief as are in accordance with the simple questions of equity, convenience and adaptability, which are the underlying principles of political economy.

According to a bulletin just issued from the Census Office there are about 1,500,000 more males than females in the sixty-two and a half millions of population, In the New England and Middle States there are 45,000 more females than males. In the south middle section including the District, the females outnumber the males by some 20,000. While in the northern central section of the country as far west as Nebraska the males are in the majority by over 800.000, in the south central portion this excess reaches only about 200,000. In the western section of the country the predominance of the males is shown by a majority of over 500,000.

The Miners' International Federation of Europe, which consists of 900,000 men of five different nationalities, is said to have been organized three years ago by Miss Edith Simcox. She found the first members of this new powerful order in labor and socialist congresses. These she brought together in a poor little cafe, and to the opinions of each man, which she translated for the benefit of the others, added hints of her own, and from this small beginning has arisen the immense society above mentioned.

Another raid into Mexico from refugees and the lower classes on the Texas border is said to be organizing.

Inspection of Live Stock and Meats.

For many years our exports of live stock and meat products have been very much restricted by hostile regulations in foreign countries. The reason assigned for these regulations was the absence of any United States Government inspection of live stock and meat products to guarantee them free from disease. Two acts of Congress, one approved August 30, 1890. and the other March 3, 1891, authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to inspect animals and meats intended for export or for interstate trade. In compliance with the law he has established, through the Bureau of Animal Industry, an inspection of live stock for export and an inspection of meats.

The inspection of live stock is intended to detect all animals that are diseased or infected with disease, and to prevent stock from becoming diseased in transport. The veterinary inspection of neat cattle and sheep to be exported to Great Britain, Ireland and the continent of Europe is made at a number of interior cities and at seaports from which stock are shipped. The cattle inspected at interior cities, when found free from disease and from exposure to contagion, are tagged and shipped to the port of export, where they are again inspected. Railroad companies are required to furnish clean and disinfected cars. Persons who ship live stock must give the name of the place from which the animals come and the name of the feeder, to enable the bureau to trace diseases to their origin. The inspector at the interior city, after passing cattle and tagging them, forwards to the veterinary inspector in charge of the port of export for which they are destined the tag numbers and a description of the cars in which the animals are shipped. At the port the animals are unloaded from the cars at the wharves, whenever possible; and when it is necessary to transport them to ocean steamers by means of boats, these must be cleaned and thoroughly disinfected, and must not receive more cattle or sheep than can be carried comfortably. No vessel with cattle or sheep for Great Britain, Ireland or the continent of Europe can receive clearance papers until the veterinary inspector certifies to the collector of the port that the animals have been duly inspected, and that the law has been fully complied with.

As Great Britain has insisted upon the existence of contagious pleuro-pneumonia in American cattle when the United States Department of Agriculture claimed that infection did not exist, the Secretary of Agriculture, through the State Department, recently obtained permission from the British Government for American veterinarians to participate with the British officers in inspecting American cattle landed at British ports. In August, 1890, three American inspectors were sent to England. Up to September 19, 1891, they examined 374,000 head of cattle with the most gratifying results. The English officers alleged contagious pleuro-pneumonia in only three cases, and in these cases the judgment of the American inspectors, who disputed the English diagnosis, was confirmed by the higher English veterinary authorities. The cost of the inspection is borne by the Government. The Secretary of Agriculture, in his report for 1891, stated that the inspection of live stock for export had cost, for the ten months during which it had been in operation, $8,500 per month, and that the meat inspection when it had been in operation three months had cost about 3¼ cents per head for each animal inspected. It is believed that experience will reduce the cost to 3 cents. The microscopic inspection of hogs has been in operation only a very short time. For the first month it cost 20⅛ cents per head, for the second 13⅛ cents per head. It is expected that the cost will shortly be reduced to 5 cents. As a result of the adoption of our inspection laws, our pork products find markets now in Germany, Denmark, France and Italy, from all of which they were formerly excluded. The British restrictions upon the importation of American cattle have not as yet been modified.—A. W. Harris, in the Century for July.

One of the most interesting experiments with irrigation has been made in the Pecos Valley, New Mexico. The Pecos River is peculiarly useful for this purpose, as it depends neither on rain nor snows, but is fed by hundreds of living springs, in which no variation has been discovered for fifteen years. The valley adjacent to it, however, is dependent on the rainfall, which is very insufficient, and in this large canals and ditches have been dug. One of these starts from the Pecos River, six miles above the new town of Eddy, at which point the river cuts itself through solid limestone. A dam, 1,130 feet long and 50 feet high at its deepest place, elevates the water and turns it through the canal head, which is cut out of the rock 50 feet wide and 25 feet deep. The dam makes a lake seven miles long and nearly two miles wide, which hold 1,000,000 gallons of water. The stream which flows into the canal is 20 feet deep and 30 feet wide. From the main canal the water is carried in side ditches to the lands along either side, where its flows is regulated by the owners of the land by means of little gates. It is estimated that 700,000 acres will be made productive under this system of irrigation.

Queerest of all queer summer ateliers is the structure erected by one of our well-known landscapists. The airy workshop stands upon a platform fixed to four tree trunks sawed off flat at the top at a distance of twelve feet from the ground. The odd atelier is reached by a swinging ladder which the artist hoists up after him, thus isolating himself from the outside world quite as effectively as though he were in a balloon. A sweeping view of the surrounding country is had from the broad window of the artestic aerie, and the painter sits within and as he calmly plies the brush chuckles at his own cleverness in evading the studio bore and his gushing women friends.—Perriton Maxwell, in the New York Recorder.

A second is the smallest division of time in general use, and when we consider that in one year there are about 31,558,000 of these periods, it would certainly seem as if it was small enough for all practical purpose. But, after all a good deal can happen even in a fraction of a second. A light-wave, for instance, passes through a distance of about 185,000 miles in this length of time. A current of electricity has probably an even greater speed. The earth itself moves in its orbit at the rate of about twenty miles a second, thus far exceeding the fastest railroad trains on its surface. A tuning-fork of the French standard vibrates 870 times per second to produce the note A on the treble staff.—Popular Science News.

The construction of an observatory on the summit of Mont Blanc is again being actively proceeded with by a committee of scientific men in Paris. A two-floored wooden building is in preparation, to be sent in sections to Chamounix, and to be carried up the mountain, in charge of the local guides, F. Payot and Jules Bossonay. There will be cabins, for resting-places, at the Grands Mulets and at the Roches Rouges, 1,000 feet below the summit.-Illustrated News of the World.

Killing at Ash Fork.

Ash Fork, July 7.—R. B. May, familiarly known as Brog, shot and instantly killed Thomas West saloon keeper here this afternoon in the saloon of Scott & Hitt; five shots were fired, all taking effect. A quarrel yesterday between the two men was the cause. West went to apologize to May this afternoon and was killed. May left town on horseback. Deputies Mulvenon and Houston are in pursuit.

Will McLabron, who is employed on Carter's cattle ranch, had a narrow escape on the 4th. He was tying his horse to a bush and while doing so a rattlesnake struck him on the end of the little finger of the left hand. He ran as fast as he could to camp about 100 yards distant, and seizing a hatchet chopped off the finger between the second and third joints. After binding up the wound as well as possible he started for town and went to Dr. Cotter's office. The doctor found the bone badly shattered and amputated the finger at the second joint. Instead of losing his life, McLabron is only short of two joints of one finger. The grit he showed is probably unsurpassed.—Yuma Times.

John Albright, a well known mining man who has just returned from the Cocopah country, in Lower California, reports the discovery of a new mineral district, including one large vein mining $160 in gold to the ton, with traces of silver. A further investigation of the region revealed rich deposits of alum and sulphur, with at least five parallel lodes of gold-bearing quartz. Placer gold is also found. A party is being organized in San Diego to prospect the region. According to the description of the finds, they are not far from the garnet mine lately discovered by Brown and Crawford. —Silver Belt.

Last Tuesday J. J. Simond and one other went out in the hills about 1000 yards from the railroad track, found a large hole that had been covered up with brush, and that covered with earth and rock. Yesterday they returned to the spot with a shovel, and after removing the covering they found the hole to be about three feet deep. They dug down about one foot and unearthed the body of what is supposed to be a little girl about twelve years old; the body was not incased in a coffin or a box of any kind. The authorities have been notified.—Nogales Advertiser.

Mr. Ed. Watts, a rancher, on the Santa Cruz, in Sonora, was in the city yesterday with a wagon load of apricots. When he came through the town of Santa Cruz he found the citizens much excited over the report that a band of fifteen Indians were seen in the Pinto mountains, about thirty miles southwest of Nogales. The citizens had sent out twenty-five men, armed, and were organizing another party to follow them. This is all the particulars he could give.—Nogales Advertiser.

There is a doubt as to whether Charley Smith, who was shot a few days since, was the victim of his own pistol or that of another person. His revolver was found with but one chamber empty and this chamber was always kept empty by the owner. There were several Mexicans in the vicinity and it is considered altogether likely that he was shot by one of them. The bullet entering the place it did. caused him to think that his own pistol had gone off.—Prospector.

Three carloads of machinery, of 40,000 pounds, are at the depot waiting to be hauled to Stanton to be used by a big placer company that is getting ready to operate near that place. Among the machinery is a dynamo which will furnish both light and power to operate the work. —Phenix Gazette.

Nine-tenths of the cattle raisers in the United States want to get out of the business; many of them are disposing of their cattle and getting out without regard to prices or the consequence. There is a well established and never failing rule in business, which in substance is "buy when everybody wants to sell;" in other words, go into a business when everybody else is going or trying to go out.—Silver City Enterprise.

The Lyons and Campbell Ranch and Cattle Company has shipped over 10,000 head of cattle this year from this place, and will keep on shipping until about 25,000 head have been shipped. Shipments from this country up to this time have aggregrated more than 20,000 head, and the total shipments are expected to reach 50,000 this year. Silver City Sentinel.

Although an ant is a tiny creature, yet its brain is even tinier. But, although it is necessarily smaller than the ant's head which contains it, yet it is larger in proportion, according to the ant's size, than the brain of any known creature. The best writers upon ants—those who have made the astonishing intelligence of these little insects a special study—are obliged to admit that they display reasoning ability, calculation, reflection and good judgment. Such qualities of brain show a more than ordinary instinct, and we are not surprised to hear that the ant's big brain carries out our idea that he possesses a higher intelligence than is shown by other workers of his size.—Harper's Young People.

There has been several reports made lately by chemists on the canaigre of Arizona, which have given such good results that its manufacture into medicine on a large scale will be commenced before long. The supply is unlimited and there is no doubt but what the enterprise could be made to pay handsome returns on the investment.—Phenix Herald.

To arrest bleeding, the application of a cobweb to the wound has long been a rural custom. Experience has shown that the gossamer of which the web is composed forms a very useful styptic; but a very fatal objection to its use arises from the fact that as an application to an open wound it can never be guaranteed ta be surgically clean, forminff as it dovs a net for insects, and at the same time for the germs of many an infectious disease,—New York Ledger.

There is a Welsh colony in Patagonia which was planted in the Chubat Valley in 1869 by the Rev. M. D. Jones. This valley is about forty miles long and four broad and is well protected by the surrounding hills. These colonists originally numbered one hundred and fifty, but there are three thousand of them. One of the number, Jonathan C. Davies, has just published a book about Patagonia.

The oldest living ex-Senator of the United States is James W. Bradbury, who recently celebrated his ninetieth birthday at Augusta, Maine. Mr. Bradbury was a classmate of Longfellow and Hawthorne at Bowdoin College, from which he was graduated in 1825, and sat in the Senate with Webster, Clay, Calhoun, Benton and Douglas.

The Salt River valley is furnishing the finest crops of wheat that ever grew here, this season. The quantity is not so far in advance of the former crops, but it is A No. 1 throughout the whole country. The Indian wheat is also reported very fine and a large crop this season.—Phenix Herald.

A Leather Trust has been incorporated in New Jersey. It will deal in all kinds of goods made from leather.